

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4111

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 16322

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, AO

SUBJECT: ANGOLAN RECOGNITION

REF: STATE 265503

1. GOI SHARES USG VIEWPOINT AND ASSESSMENTS CONCERNING ANGOLAN REGIME, AS SET FORTH REFTEL.

2. EMBOFF MET NOVEMBER 10 WITH RACHELE (OFFICE DIRECTOR FOR SUB-SAHARA) TO REVIEW POINTS MADE IN REFTEL. RACHELE SAID USG ASSESSMENT AND ATTITUDE IS LARGELY SAME AS THAT OF GOI. GOI HAD WORKED ACTIVELY WITH ALL THREE ANGOLAN POLITICAL COMPONENTS AND WITH ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT" BEFORE TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS BROKE DOWN. NOW, HOWEVER, MPLA CLAIMS IT HAS EXCLUSIVE CLAIM TO POLITICA LEGITIMACY IN ANGOLA. MPLA'S "FOREIGN MINISTER" PAOLO JORES (PHONETIC) SPOKE "PRIVATELY" WITH MFA OFFICIALS IN ROME VISIT A WEEK AGO DURING COURSE OF EUROPEAN LOBBYING TOUR AND HAD "ACKNOWLEDGED" THAT MPLA HAD BEEN LOSING TERRITORY OF LATE TO "MERCENARIES FROM SOUTH AFRICA, RHODESIA AND THE ZAIRE". MPLA NOW CONTROLS NINE PROVINCES, HE SAID.

3. EC NINE HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING ANGOLAN SITUATION, LARGELY TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION RATHER THAN TO AGREE ON COMMON POLICIES. HOWEVER, UPCOMING POLITICAL DIRECOTORS MEETING IN ROME (SEPTTEL)
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WILL AGAIN DISCUSS ANGOLA, AND THERE IS GOOD REASON TO BELIEVE

THE NINE WILL ATTEMPT TO CONCERT THEIR POSITION REGARDING
RECOGNITION OF A NEW REGIME. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE ARE GIVING
RACHELE A SLIGHTLY SANITIZED VERSION OF REFTTEL, AS A "PIECE OF
PAPER" FOR POSSIBLE REFERENCE USE BY ITALIAN PRESIDENCY AT
POLDIR'S MEETING. CALINGAERT

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